Outstanding dues of Post Matric Scholarship Scheme

564. SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:
PROF. R.B.S. VARMA:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a huge accumulation of dues, under 100% Centrally sponsored Post Matric Scholarship Scheme for Other Backward Classes is outstanding to be paid to the Government of Maharashtra and other States;

(b) if so, the amount so due to each of the States as on the 31st March, 2002,2003,2004 and 2005; and

(c) the reasons for growing accumulations and the steps taken, for regular clearance of such dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Inclusion of "Dhangar" community as ST in Goa

565. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Goa has recommended inclusion of "Dhangar" community in Goa as Scheduled Tribe;

(b) whether the inclusion of the community was also under Government's consideration when three communities of Goa, namely, "Gawdas" "Kunbis" and "Velips" were notified as Scheduled Tribes; and

(c) if so, details for not notifying the "Dhangar" community at that stage?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R.KYNDIAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As per the approved modalities, the proposals for inclusion of "Dhangar" community along with the proposals for inclusion of

communities of "Gawdas", "Kunbis" and "Velip" were processed. Due to disagreement of the concerned agencies in respect of "Dhangar" community, this could not be taken up.

Autonomous councils for tribals

566. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposals seeking autonomous councils for tribals;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there is a demand for stopping transfer of land to the non tribals in Scheduled Areas; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R.KYNDIAH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. According to information received from the Ministry of Home Affairs, the proposal to include hill areas of Darjeeling District of West Bengal under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution is under examination.

(c) and(d) According to Schedule VII of the Constitution, the subject related to 'land' comes under the State List. Most of the States having Scheduled Areas have enacted laws regulating transfer from tribals to non-tribals. However, no specific demand for stopping transfer of land to the non-tribals in Scheduled Areas has been received in the Ministry.

Traditional rights in forests for tribals

567. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether tribals have not been given the traditional rights in forests including land and access to the minor forests products;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when a bill to give tribals these benefits is likely to be introduced in Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH):(a) and (c) The tenurial and access rights of forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes in